

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 NIC-01

RSR-01 /128 W

----- 115215

R 191535 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4612

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 5798

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XG, GW, CZ

SUBJECT: FRG- CSSR TALKS

REF: BONN 5754

1. IN A MAY 19 CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR,
FONOFF STATE SECRETARY FRANK DISCUSSED THE AGREEMENT
REACHED WITH THE CZECHS ON A METHOD OF CIRCUMVENTING
PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE INVALIDTY OF THE MUNICH
AGREEMENT (REFTEL). FRANK AGREED WITH THE AMBASSADOR' S
COMMENT THAT THE CZECHS HAD GIVEN A GOOD DEAL OF
GROUND ON THIS POINT AND ATTRIBUTED THEIR MOVEMENT TO
TWO FACTORS: A) THE CZECH DESIRE TO PROCEED WITH
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THEIR POLICY OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO DULL MEMORIES OF 1968, AND B) SOVIET PRESSURE AS A RESULT OF BREZHNEV' S WISH TO CLEAR THE TABLE OF PROBLEMS BEFORE HIS FRG VISIT. FRANK SAID THAT BREZHNEV HAD NEVER HAD MUCH UNDERSTANDING OF THE " PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM" THE CZECHS HAD CONCERNING THE MUNICH AGREEMENT.

2. FRANK ESTIMATED THAT FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CZECH WOULD BE COMPLETED IN MID- OR LATE JUNE AND CONFIRMED THE GENERAL FORM OF THE TREATY PREDICTED BY " SPIEGEL" (PARA 3 REFTEL). FRANK SAID THAT A TREATY WITH HUNGARY COULD BE SIGNED VERY SHORTLY AFTER CONCLUSION OF THE CZECH AGREEMENT; " ONLY A HALF- AN- HOUR OF NEGOTIATING WOULD BE NEEDED."

3. FRANK ADDED THAT IN THE LAST ROUND OF TALKS THE FRG HAD LEARNED THAT THE AUSTRIANS HAD BROKEN OFF THEIR TALKS WITH THE CZECHS AFTER 17 YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE AUSTRIANS HAD HAD SIMILAR DIFFICULTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE MUNICH AGREEMENT AS HAD THE FRG AND HAD FINALLY TOLD THE CZECHS THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE THE TALKS ONLY AFTER AN AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE FRG. HILLENBRAND

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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